

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, there is an imminent danger of an infestation of the non-native plant pest European gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar* (Linnaeus)) which seriously endangers the agricultural and horticultural industries of the state of Washington and seriously threatens the economic well-being and quality of life of state residents, and;

Portions of the Madison area of Seattle and portions of the Rosemont area of Bellevue (as identified in the 2006 Environmental Assessment of the Cooperative Gypsy Moth Eradication Project) are in imminent danger of infestation and emergency measures are necessary to prevent establishment of the pest, and;

After thorough evaluation of other alternatives and in accordance with RCW 17.24.171, the Director of the Department of Agriculture has requested that the Governor order emergency measures to control the pest; and

The aerial and/or ground spray application of *Bacillus thuringiensus var. kurstaki* (B.t.k.) products, as specified in the Environmental Assessment, is the most effective and preferred treatment alternative for eradicating this pest;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, by virtue of the authority vested in me under RCW 43.06.010(13), as a result of the imminent danger of infestation noted herein, after evaluation of other alternatives and in accordance with RCW 17.24.171, do hereby declare a State of Emergency and authorize the Director of the Department of Agriculture to use emergency measures in the above-noted areas to effect the eradication of the European gypsy moth, including aerial application of B.t.k. product in the identified Madison area.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 17th day of April, Two Thousand Six at Olympia, Washington.

Governor of Washington

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Secretary of State